

REMARKS

Claims 61-81 are pending in this application.

Claims 75-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 61-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,288,716 ("Humpleman").

The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended claims 61, 68, and 75-81 to more particularly define the invention. No new matter has been added by the amendments and the amendments are fully supported by the original specification.

Applicants' Reply to the Rejection of Claims 75-81 under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 75-81 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Although applicants do not agree with Examiner's basis for rejection, applicants have amended claims 75-81 to further advance prosecution of this application.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 75-81 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

Applicants' Reply to the Rejection of Claims 61-81 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Summary of Telephonic Interviews

The Examiner and applicants' representative, Michael J. Chasan (Reg. No. 54,026), conducted a telephonic interview on July 28, 2006. During the interview, the Examiner

and applicants' representative discussed the claims and the cited references. Based on this discussion, applicants have amended the claims in order to place the application in better condition for allowance.

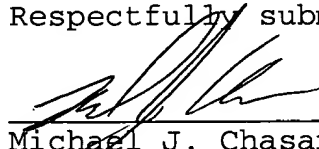
The Examiner and applicants' representative conducted a follow-up telephonic interview on August 11, 2006. During the interview, the Examiner and applicants' representative discussed the amendments shown in this paper and the Examiner indicated that these amendments are patentable over the prior art of record, pending a subsequent prior art search.

Applicants and applicants' representative wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during both of these interviews.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that this application, including claims 61-81, is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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